

Fred Chay

The Choice: Law or Liberty
Galatians 5:1-6

- I. The Personal Section- The Defense of Paul's Reception of the Gospel 1:1-2:21
- II. The Doctrinal Section The Defense of Paul's Gospel of Justification By Faith Alone in Christ Alone 3:1-4:31
 - A. Justification is by Faith and Not Works of the Law 3:1-14
 - B. Inheritance Comes from Promise Not Law 3:15-22
 - C. The Sons of God are Heirs of the Promise Redeemed from the Bondage of the Law 3:23-4:7
 - D. The Sons of God Must Not Return to the Bondage of Law but Remain Free 4:8-31
 - 1. The Contemplative Return to Law is Contrary to their Reception of God 4:8-11
 - 2. The Current Attitude of Hostile Rejection of Paul is Contrary to their Act of Kind Reception in the Past 4:12-20
 - a. The Attitude of the Galatians is Suspicious :12-16
 - b. The Attitude of the Judaizer's is Selfish :17
 - c. The Attitude of Paul is Selfless :18-20
 - 3. The Concept of Freedom Painted in a Portrait :21-31
 - a. The Hermeneutical Manifestation :21-23
 - b. The Theological Interpretation :24-27
 - c. The Personal Application :28-31
- III. The Practical Section Defense of Christian Liberty 5:1-6:10
 - A. Acceptance of Legalism is Rejection of Grace 5:1-6
 - 1. Exhortation: Stand Firm in Liberty 5:1
 - 2. Explanation: Law and Grace are Mutually Exclusive 5:2-6
 - a. Legalistic system negates grace 5:2-4
 - Circumcision negates Christ's work :2
 - Circumcision enslaves to the Whole law :3
 - Righteousness by law negates grace :4

Falling From Grace?

Classic Misinterpretations

- * Unbelievers Who Reject the Gospel (aka Calvinism)
Similar to the Heb 6,10, John 15 and Lk 8 passages; Not real Christians
- * Believers Who Lose Their Salvation (aka Arminianism)
Similar to same passages but feel that they are real Christians but lose it

Correct Interpretation

* Context Developed

1. Concept of Grace
2. Confusion with OT Law- Purpose of law is sanctification not justification
3. Confusion with Means of Sanctification
Attitude of legalism does not sanctify in OT or NT
Actions based on and motivated by God's Grace Sanctifies

* Correct Description of :4

1. "Estranged" from Christ katargew
2. "Fallen" from Grace ekpipto. (2 Pt 3:17)
3. Positional vs Conditional Issue

Conclusion

The Law is a ministry of death 2 Cor. 3

The Christian is not under the "Law" John 1:17 Rom. 6:14, Gal 2:16

Christ died to free us- release us from the law Rom 7:1-6

Spirituality in the NT saint is not accomplished by Mosaic law or personal legalism!

Perhaps this is similar to the issues on Book of Hebrews- Going back to law system?

b. The Grace system brings "hope of righteousness" :5-6

*Faith awaits hope of righteousness :5

A look forward to the result of being righteous

(They made a good start 3:1-6, 5:7-8, 13 Paul hopes for them to continue and look forward to the results being positionally righteous

(Justification by faith) to that of being practically righteous seen in sanctification (faith working through love :6) 5:13 manifest by walking by the Spirit producing love 5:14,16)

*Faith Working through love is beneficial :6

A look in the present at the attitude and action based on grace not law. (Set up for 5:16)

Two Theological Issues :6

What does this tell us about the nature of faith?

What does this tell us about the evidence for assurance of salvation?